

Messrs. Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson Ld.

T. S. S. "NAPIER STAR".

Proposed arrangement of controls for the deep oil fuel tanks in the tunnels.

IT IS SUBMITTED the Firm be informed that the remarks contained in their letter of the 30th ultimo have been carefully noted.

It should however be explained it is considered that there is more risk of fire breaking out in the engine and boiler space than in any other compartment, and accordingly the remote controls of any oil fuel tanks should be capable of being operated outside the engine and boiler space.

It is agreed that in case of fire the correct procedure would be for the Engineer in charge to stop the oil fuel pump and close the valves through which the oil fuel was being pumped, but experience has shown that fire may spread with such rapidity that compliance with correct procedure may be rendered impossible, or alternatively, the Engineer in charge may not retain sufficient presence of mind to adopt the measures previously mentioned.

In the circumstances, it is considered that the controls of the tunnel deep oil tank suction valves should be led to deck, or a master valve, similarly controlled, should be fitted to each oil fuel main in the thrust recess.

It may be stated that the latter method of complying with the requirements of the Rules has been adopted in many previous cases and it is considered to be simple and efficient.

Advise Newcastle Surveyors.

J. R. B.

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